

SATURDAY, MARCH 19, 1785.

THE

NEWPORT

Containing the freshest Advices

Printed by HENRY BARBER,

"Whence our Country calls—Friends,
"up, nor own a Sense beyond the Public



[No. 1225.]

MERCURY.

FOREIGN and DOMESTIC.

at the Foot of the PARADE.

Sons, and Sires, should yield their Treasure
Safety." BROOKES'S GUSTAVUS VASA.

Dr. PRIOR'S OBSERVATIONS, continued.
Of LIBERTY of CONSCIENCE, and CIVIL Es-
TABLISHMENTS of RELIGION.

IN LIBERTY of CONSCIENCE I include much more than *Toleration*. Jesus Christ has established a perfect equality among his followers. His command is, that they shall assume no jurisdiction over one another, and acknowledge no master besides himself.—It is, therefore, presumption in any of them to claim a right to any superiority or pre-eminence over their brethren. Such a claim is implied, whenever any of them pretend to *tolerate* the rest.—Not only all *Christians*, but all *men* of all religions ought to be considered by a State as equally intitled to its protection as far as they demean themselves honestly and peaceably. *Toleration* can take place only where there is a civil establishment of a particular mode of religion; that is, where a predominant sect enjoys *exclusive* advantages, and makes the encouragement of its own mode of faith and worship a part of the constitution of the State; but at the same time thinks fit to *suffer* the exercise of other modes of faith and worship. Thanks be to God, the new American States are at present strangers to such establishments. In this respect, as well as many others, they have shown, in framing their constitutions, a degree of wisdom and liberality which is above all praise.

Civil establishments of formularies of faith and worship are inconsistent with the rights of private judgment.—They ingender strife.—They turn religion into a trade.—They shoot up error.—They produce hypocrisy and prevarication.—They lay an undue bias on the human mind in its inquiries, and obstruct the progress of truth.—*Genuine* religion is a concern that lies entirely between God and our own souls. It is incapable of receiving any aid from human laws. It is contaminated as soon as worldly motives and sanctions mix their influence with it. Statesmen should countenance it only by exhibiting in their own example a conscientious regard to it in those forms which are most agreeable to their own judgments, and by encouraging their fellow-citizens in doing the same. They cannot as *public men* give it any other assistance. All besides that has been called a *public leading* in religion, has done it an essential injury, and produced some of the worst consequences.

The Church establishment in *England* is one of the mildest sort. But even here what a snare has it been to integrity? And what a check to free inquiry? What dispositions favourable to despotism has it fostered? What a turn to pride and narrowness and domination has it given the clerical character? What struggles has it produced in its members to accommodate their opinions to the subscriptions and tests which it imposes? What a perversion of learning has it occasioned to defend obsolete creeds and absurdities? What a burthen is it on the consciences of some of its best clergy, who, in consequence of being bound down to a system they do not approve, and having no support except that which they derive from conforming to it, find themselves under the hard necessity of either *prevaricating* or *starving*?—No one doubts but that the English clergy in general could with more truth declare that they *do not*, than that they *do* give their *unfeigned assent to all and every thing* contained in the thirty-nine Articles and the Book of Common-Prayer; and yet, with a solemn declaration to this purpose, are they obliged to enter upon an office which above all offices requires those

who exercise it to be exempt of simplicity and sincerity.—Who can help exploring the cause of such an evil?

But what I wish most to urge is the tendency of religious establishments to impede the improvement of the world. They fix boundaries prescribed by human folly to human investigation; and inclosures which intercept the light and confine the exertions of reason. Let any one imagine to himself what effects similar establishments would have in Philosophy, Navigation, Metaphysics, Medicine or Mathematics.—Something like this took place in Logic and Philosophy; while the *ipse dixit* of Aristotle and the nonsense of the schools maintained an authority like that of the creeds of churchmen: And the effect was a longer continuance of the world in the ignorance and barbarity of the dark ages. But civil establishments of religion are *more* pernicious. So apt are mankind to misrepresent the character of the Deity, and to connect his favour with particular modes of faith, that it must be expected, that a religion so settled will be what it has hitherto been—a gloomy and cruel superstition bearing the name of religion.

It has been long a subject of dispute, which is worst in its effects on society, *such* a religion or speculative Atheism? For my own part, I could almost give the preference to the latter.—**ATHEISM** is so repugnant to every principle of common sense, that it is not possible it should ever gain much ground, or become very prevalent.—On the contrary; there is a particular proneness in the human mind to **SUPERSTITION**, and nothing is more likely to become prevalent.—**ATHEISM** leaves us to the full influence of most of our natural feelings and social principles; and these are so strong in their operation, that in general they are a sufficient guard to the order of society. But **SUPERSTITION** counteracts these principles, by holding forth men to one another as objects of divine hatred; and by putting them on harassing, silencing, imprisoning and burning one another in order to do God service. **ATHEISM** is a sanctuary for vice by taking away the motives to virtue arising from the will of God and the fear of a future judgment. But **SUPERSTITION** is more a sanctuary for vice, by teaching men ways of pleasing God without moral virtue, and by leading them even to compound for wickedness by ritual services, by bodily penances and mortifications, by adoring statues, going pilgrimages, saying many prayers, receiving absolution from the priest, exterminating heretics, &c.—**ATHEISM** destroys the sacredness and obligation of an oath. But is there not also a religion (so called) which does this, by teaching that there is a power which can dispense with the obligation of oaths, that *pious* frauds are right, and that faith is not to be kept with heretics.

It is indeed only a rational and liberal religion; a religion founded on just notions of the Deity as a being who regards equally every sincere worshipper, and by whom all are alike favoured as far as they act up to the light they enjoy; a religion which consists in the imitation of the moral perfections of an Almighty but benevolent Governor of nature who directs for the best all events, in confidence in the care of his providence, in resignation to his will, and in the faithful discharge of every duty of piety and morality from a regard to his authority and the apprehension of a future righteous retribution.—It is only **THIS** religion (the inspiring principle of every thing fair and worthy and joyful, and

which in truth is nothing but the love of God and man and virtue warming the heart and directing the conduct.)—It is only **THIS** kind of religion that can bless the world, or be an advantage to society. This is the religion that every enlightened friend to mankind will be zealous to promote. But it is a religion that the powers of the world know little of, and which will always be best promoted by being left free and open.

I cannot help adding here, that this is in particular the *Christian* religion.—Christianity teaches us that there is none good but one, that is, God; that he willeth all men to be saved, and will punish nothing but wickedness; that he desires mercy and not sacrifice (benevolence rather than rituals) that loving him with all our hearts, and loving our neighbour as ourselves, is the whole of our duty; and that in every nation he that feareth him and worketh righteousness is accepted of him. It rests its authority on the power of God, not of man; refers itself entirely to the understandings of men; makes us the subjects of a kingdom that is not of this world and requires us to elevate our minds above temporal emoluments, and to look forwards to a state beyond the grave, where a government of perfect virtue will be erected under that Messiah who has *tasted death for every man*.—What have the powers of the world to do with such a religion? It disclaims all connexion with them; it made its way at first in opposition to them; and as far as it is now upheld by them, it is dishonoured and vitiated.

The injury which civil establishments do to Christianity may be learnt from the following considerations.

First. The spirit of religious establishments is opposite to the spirit of Christianity. It is a spirit of pride and tyranny in opposition to the Christian *lowly* spirit; a contracted and selfish spirit, in opposition to the Christian enlarged and benevolent spirit; the spirit of the world in opposition to the Christian *heavenly* spirit.

Secondly. Religious establishments are founded on a claim of authority in the Christian church which overthrows Christ's authority. He has in the scriptures given his followers a code of laws, to which he requires them to adhere as their *only* guide. But the language of the framers of church establishments is "We have authority in controversies of faith and power to decree rites and ceremonies. We are the deputies of Christ upon earth, who have been commissioned by him to interpret his laws, and to rule his church. You must therefore follow us. The scriptures are insufficient. Our interpretations you must receive as Christ's laws; our creeds as his doctrine; our inventions as his institutions."

It is evident, as the excellent *Hoarty* has shown, that these claims turn Christ out of the government of his own kingdom, and place usurpers on his throne.—They are therefore derogatory to his honor; and a submission to them is a breach of the allegiance due to him. They have been almost fatal to true Christianity; and attempts to enforce them by civil penalties, have watered the Christian world with the blood of saints and martyrs.

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and opinions; and that a kingdom may go on for ages in idolatrous worship, after a general conviction has taken place, that there is but one object of religious worship, namely, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. What a sad scene of religious hypocrisy must such a discordance between public conviction and the public forms produce? At this day in some European countries, the absurdity and slavishness of their hierarchies are seen and acknowledged; but being incorporated with the state, it is scarcely possible to get rid of them.

What can be more striking than the state of England in this respect?—The system of faith and worship established in it was formed above two hundred years ago, when Europe was just emerging from darkness and barbarity. The times have ever since been growing more enlightened; but without any effect on the establishment. Not a ray of the increasing light has penetrated it. Not one imperfection, however gross, has been removed. The same articles of faith are subscribed. The same ritual of devotion is practised.—There is reason to fear that the *absolution of the sick* which forms a part of this ritual, is often resorted to as a passport to heaven after a wicked life; and yet it is continued.—Perhaps nothing more shocking to reason and humanity ever made a part of a religious system than the damning clauses in the *Athanasian* creed; and yet the obligation of the clergy to declare assent to this creed, and to read it as a part of the public devotion, remains.

The necessary consequence of such a state of things is, that,

Fourthly, Christianity itself is disgraced, and that all religion comes to be considered as a state trick, and a barbarous mummerly. It is well known, that in some Popish countries there are few Christians among the higher ranks of men, the religion of the state being in those countries mistaken for the religion of the Gospel. This indeed shews a criminal inattention in those who fall into such a mistake; for they ought to consider that Christianity has been grievously corrupted, and that their ideas of it should be taken from the New-Testament only. It is, however, so natural to reckon Christianity to be that which it is held out to be in all the establishments of it, that it cannot but happen that such an error will take place and produce some of the worst consequences.—There is probably a greater number of rational Christians (that is, of Christians upon inquiry) in England, than in all Popish countries. The reason is, that the religious establishment here is Popery reformed; and that a considerable body dissent from it, and are often inculcating the necessity of distinguishing between the Christianity established by law and that which is taught in the Bible.—Certain it is, that till this distinction is made, Christianity can never recover its just credit and usefulness.

[To be continued.]

This is an inconvenience attending civil as well as ecclesiastical establishments, which has been with great wisdom guarded against in the new American constitutions by appointing that there shall be a revival of them at the end of certain terms. This will leave them always open to improvement without any danger of those convulsions which have usually attended the corrections of abuses when they have acquired a sacredness by time.

PHILADELPHIA, March 5.

By captain Crawford, in the Ship Helena, lately arrived in James River from Glasgow, but last from Teneriffe, we have the following account of a most bloody massacre, which took place the 7th of December last in the island of Hierro, on a number of unfortunate people put on shore in distress.

Teneriffe December 17, 1784.

By a bark that arrived here the 14th instant, from the island of Hierro, we have an account of a most melancholy event which took place there the 7th. On the 6th, a vessel displaying white colours, landed 37 people, among whom were five, or as some say, seven women, and one or more of these had infants in their arms. They came ashore on a beach on the S. W. part of the island, surrounded on the land side by high inaccessible rocks, which entirely prevented all ingress into the country, except at one particular part, where there is a steep and narrow defile, through which one person at a time may pass. This inlet was immediately

secured by some of the Islanders, who happened to be near, whilst others went to the principal town and gave an account of the coming of these people to the governor, Don Juan Briz Calderon; this officer convened the council, or as it is called here, the *cavildo* of the island; and unfortunately for these devoted people, very strict orders had been issued, in consequence of the plague raging in some parts of Europe, not to admit any vessels whatever, until upon a due examination of their papers, it should appear there was no danger of infection. The governor fearing, or pretending to fear, that these new comers might possibly have the plague among them, proposed the horrid measure of cutting them all off. Some of the *cavildo*, to their lasting honor, strenuously opposed so shocking a step, and pleaded the cause of the innocent victims and of humanity itself; they argued that these unhappy strangers all appeared healthy, and gave no cause to apprehend they were any ways infected; that some unavoidable distress might have compelled them to seek an asylum on their shore; that all possible means of retreat were cut off from them, as the vessel that landed them had sailed away; that it was cruelly unjust to inflict the severest of all punishments upon them, for transgressing a temporary law of the country, which they could not possibly be acquainted with, in order to go through the forms prescribed previous to their landing; and finally, that though they should be infected with the distemper so much feared, the spot of ground they occupied effectually secured the inhabitants from any apprehensions of catching the infection from them, by only guarding the single avenue through which they could have any possible communication with the country, generously offering at the same time, to maintain, at their own expence, these unhappy strangers, until the governor-general of the islands, residing at Teneriffe, should be informed of the case, and his determination upon it be known. Unhappily, these humane sentiments were not listened to by Briz, and others, who adopted this scandalous and bloody resolution of slaughtering them, without mercy or delay. Accordingly the militia armed and officered, with the curled Briz at their head, marched to the place where the horrid murder was to be executed; they found the poor victims dispersed along the beach; the men, some gathering shell fish, and others walking together in small sociable parties; the women were, some sitting on the sand, combing and dressing one another's hair; others washing some linen in the sea water, and others tending their infants. Thus situated they were found by their infernal butchers, who, in order to gather them together, to perpetrate with more ease their diabolical purposes, cast down an empty cask upon the beach, the unfortunate people thinking it was some kind relief intended for them, immediately flocked together where the cask stood, and here the massacre began. Humanity revolts at the shocking idea: Suffice it to say, that in a few minutes, an end was put to them all, except of one of the women, who took shelter with her child between two rocks close to the water's edge, and of a man, who, after having a ball lodged in his arm, took to the sea, where he kept swimming upwards of two hours, but being obliged to cling to a rock to escape drowning, was there cut to pieces, with a sabre; the poor woman was also soon followed into her retreat, and there stabbed to death with a knife. These merciless miscreants the governor was the first that fired his piece, and observing a visible backwardness in many of the militia in following his example, he threatened them with instant death if they hesitated in the least, and to show he was in earnest, knocked down the nearest man to him with the butt end of his musket, for appearing reluctant. The news of this savage act of barbarity, has been received here by all ranks of people with the deepest concern and regret, and by none more than our governor general who deplores it extremely: He could not at first give credit to it, but was at length convinced of the fatal truth by letters from the infernal wretch Briz himself. Exasperated to the highest pitch, he has given a commission to an officer of rank, to go over to Hierro, and to take cognizance of this tragical affair, and it is hoped and expected, the shedders of so much innocent blood, will, in the end, meet with condign punishment.

It is not as yet known with certainty, of what nation these unfortunate people were, but

it is generally supposed they were from Ireland or Scotland, going to America.

March 9. A number of gentlemen taking into consideration the great importance of agriculture, met in this city on Tuesday the first inst. and formed a society for the purpose of promoting improvements within the state—fixing to what have advanced the husbandry of most of the states of Europe, to a degree that ought to raise our apprehensions and inspire every American with active endeavours to keep pace with them; and if it can be, to equal them in this great object.

On Saturday morning last departed this life, in the 43d year of his age, General JOSEPH REED, Esq; formerly president of this state; and on Sunday his remains were interred in the Presbyterian burying ground in Arch-Street. His funeral was attended by his Excellency the President and the Supreme executive council, the Hon. the Speaker, and the General Assembly, the militia officers, and a greater number of citizens than were ever seen here on any similar occasion.

NEW YORK, March 4.

The Honorable the Senate have passed a bill for investing the United States in Congress with powers to prohibit the importation or exportation of all goods or merchandises, for the term of fifteen years.

NEWPORT, March 19.

Capt. Simon Davis, in the Brig Sea-Horse, from Boston bound to Barbados, was spoke with on the 14th of January last, by Capt. Crawford, in the Ship Helena, lately arrived in James-River, Virginia, from Glasgow.

Yesterday Morning departed this life, in the 75th Year of his Age, the Hon. THOMAS CRANSTON, Esq.

A Gentleman well known and much respected throughout this State, from the Integrity and Fidelity with which he discharged many Offices of important Trust conferred upon him by his Country, for a long course of Years.

As a Merchant, he was ready, active, and enterprising—as a Companion, facetious, agreeable and entertaining—as a Husband and a Father, kind and indulgent.

During a long and tedious illness, his Behaviour was remarkable for that Fortitude, Patience, and Resignation to the Will of Heaven, which Christianity only can inspire.

His Funeral is to be from his House in Thayer-street, on the Morrow-Afternoon, if the Weather be fair at 4 o'Clock, when his Friends are desired to attend.

MARRIED]—Mr. ISAAC PEARCE of Swansea, to Miss SALLY BLISS, Daughter of HENRY BLISS, Esq; of this City.

* * * Advertisements omitted this Week will be carefully attended to in our next.

NAVAL-OFFICE, Port of Newport, March 19.

INWARD ENTRIES, From
Sloop Newport Packet, S. Lawton, Philadelphia.
Sloop Washington, J. Norris, New-York.
CLEARED, For
Sloop Fanny, P. Clarke, jun. Hispaniola.
Sloop Charleston Packet, W. Munro, W. Indies.

State of Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations.

THE Subscribers being by the Hon. General Assembly appointed a Committee to adjust, and final Settlement make of all the Demands against the Estates of Joseph Wanton, jun. and William Wanton, late of Newport, in the County of Newport, Merchants, Absentees, do hereby give Notice, that they will meet for that Purpose at the House of Mr. John Lawton, in the City of Newport, on the Second Monday in April next; the Creditors to said Estates are desired to leave their respective Demands in writing with Mr. Daniel Mason, in Newport, previous to said Time affixed; those Persons who neglect to attend upon said Committee, with their respective Vouchers will be forever after excluded from taking any Benefit from said Estates.

ESSECK HOPKINS,
DANIEL MASON,
NATHAN MILLER,
BENJAMIN ARNOLD,
R. J. HELMS.

March 19, 1785.

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[To be continued.]

This is an inconvenience attending civil as well as ecclesiastical establishments, which has been with great wisdom guarded against in the new American constitutions by appointing that there shall be a revival of them at the end of certain terms. This will leave them always open to improvement without any danger of those convulsions which have usually attended the corrections of abuses when they have acquired a sacredness by time.

PHILADELPHIA, March 5.

By captain Crawford, in the ship Helena, lately arrived in James river from Glasgow, but last from Teneriffe, we have the following account of a most bloody massacre, which took place the 7th of December last in the island of Hierro, on a number of unfortunate people put on shore in distress.

Teneriffe December 17, 1784.

BY a bark that arrived here the 14th instant, from the island of Hierro, we have an account of a most melancholy event which took place there the 7th. On the 6th, a vessel displaying white colours, landed 37 people, among whom were five, or as some say, seven women, and one or more of these had infants in their arms. They came ashore on a beach on the S. W. part of the island, surrounded on the land side by high inaccessible rocks, which entirely prevented all ingress into the country, except at one particular part, where there is a steep and narrow defile, through which one person at a time may pass. This inlet was immediately

secured by some of the Islanders, who happened to be near, whilst others went to the principal town and gave an account of the coming of these people to the governor, Don Juan Briz Calderon; this officer convened the council, or as it is called here, the *cavildo* of the island; and unfortunately for these devoted people, very strict orders had been issued, in consequence of the plague raging in some parts of Europe, not to admit any vessels whatever, until upon a due examination of their papers, it should appear there was no danger of infection. The governor fearing, or pretending to fear, that these new comers might possibly have the plague among them, proposed the horrid measure of cutting them all off. Some of the *cavildo*, to their lasting honor, strenuously opposed so shocking a step, and pleaded the cause of the innocent victims and of humanity itself; they argued that these unhappy strangers all appeared healthy, and gave no cause to apprehend they were any ways infected; that some unavoidable distress might have compelled them to seek an asylum on their shore; that all possible means of retreat were cut off from them, as the vessel that landed them had sailed away; that it was cruelly unjust to inflict the severest of all punishments upon them, for transgressing a temporary law of the country, which they could not possibly be acquainted with, in order to go through the forms prescribed previous to their landing; and finally, that though they should be infected with the distemper so much feared, the spot of ground they occupied effectually secured the inhabitants from any apprehensions of catching the infection from them, by only guarding the single avenue through which they could have any possible communication with the country, generously offering at the same time, to maintain, at their own expence, these unhappy strangers, until the governor-general of the islands, residing at Teneriffe, should be informed of the case, and his determination upon it be known. Unhappily, these humane sentiments were not listened to by Briz, and others, who adopted this scandalous and bloody resolution of slaughtering them, without mercy or delay. Accordingly the militia armed and officered, with the cursed Briz at their head, marched to the place where the horrid murder was to be executed; they found the poor victims dispersed along the beach; the men, some gathering shell fish, and others walking together in small sociable parties; the women were some sitting on the sand, combing and dressing one another's hair; others washing some linen in the sea water, and others fondling their infants. Thus situated they were found by their infernal butchers, who, in order to gather them together, to perpetrate with more ease their diabolical purposes, cast down an empty cask upon the beach, the unfortunate people thinking it was some kind relief intended for them, immediately flocked together where the cask stood, and here the massacre began. Humanity revolts at the shocking idea: Suffice it to say, that in a few minutes, on end was put to them all, except of one of the women, who took shelter with her child between two rocks close to the water's edge, and of a man, who, after having a ball lodged in his arm, took to the sea, where he kept swimming upwards of two hours, but being obliged to cling to a rock to escape drowning, was there cut to pieces, with a sabre; the poor woman was also soon followed into her retreat, and there stabbed to death with a knife. Thus mercilessly murdered the governor was the first that fired his piece, and observing a visible backwardness in many of the militia in following his example, he threatened them with instant death if they hesitated in the least, and to show he was in earnest, knocked down the nearest man to him with the butt end of his musket, for appearing reluctant. The news of this savage act of barbarity, has been received here by all ranks of people with the deepest concern and regret, and by none more than our governor general who deplores it extremely: He could not at first give credit to it, but was at length convinced of the fatal truth by letters from the infernal wretch Briz himself. Exasperated to the highest pitch, he has given a commission to an officer of rank, to go over to Hierro, and to take cognizance of this tragical affair, and it is hoped and expected, the shedders of so much innocent blood, will, in the end, meet with condign punishment.

It is not as yet known with certainty, of what nation these unfortunate people were, but

it is generally supposed they were from Ireland or Scotland, going to America.

March 9. A number of gentlemen taking into consideration the great importance of agriculture, met in this city on Tuesday the first inst. and formed a society for the purpose of promoting improvements within the state—similar to what have advanced the husbandry of most of the states of Europe, to a degree that ought to raise our apprehensions and inspire every American with active endeavours to keep pace with them; and it can be, to equal them in this great object.

On Saturday morning last departed this life, in the 43d year of his age, General JOSEPH REED, Esq, formerly president of this state; and on Sunday his remains were interred in the Presbyterian burying ground in Arch-Street. His funeral was attended by his Excellency the President and the supreme executive council, the Hon. the Speaker, and the General Assembly, the militia officers, and a greater number of citizens than were ever seen here on any similar occasion.

NEW YORK, March 4.

The Honorable the Senate have passed a bill for investing the United States in Congress with powers to prohibit the importation of exportation of all goods or merchandises, for the term of fifteen years.

NEWPORT, March 19.

Capt. Simon Davis, in the Brig Sea-Horse, from Boston bound to Barbados, was spoke with on the 14th of January last, by Capt. Crawford, in the Ship Helena, lately arrived in James-River, Virginia, from Glasgow.

Yesterday Morning departed this Life, in the 75th Year of his Age, the Hon. THOMAS CRANSTON, Esq.

A Gentleman well known and much respected throughout this State, from the Integrity and Fidelity with which he discharged many Offices of important Trust conferred upon him by his Country, for a long course of Years.

As a Merchant, he was ready, active, and enterprising—as a Companion, facetious, agreeable and entertaining—as a Husband and a Father, kind and indulgent.

During a long and tedious Illness, his Behaviour was remarkable for that Fortitude, Patience, and Resignation to the Will of Heaven, which Christianity only can inspire.

His Funeral is to be from his House in Thamet-street, on the Morrow-Afternoon, if the Weather be fair at 4 o'Clock, when his Friends are desired to attend.

MARRIED.—Mr. ISAAC PEARCE of Swansboro, to Miss SALLY BLISS, Daughter of HENRY BLISS, Esq; of this City.

Advertisements omitted this Week will be carefully attended to in our next.

NAVAL-OFFICE, Port of Newport, March 19.

INWARD ENTRIES,	From
Sloop Newport Packet, S. Lawton,	Philadelphia.
Sloop Washington, J. Norris,	New-York.
CLEARED,	For
Sloop Fanny, P. Clarke, jun.	Hispaniola.
Sloop Charleston Packet, W. Munro,	W. Indies.

State of Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations.

THE Subscribers being by the Hon. General Assembly appointed a Committee to adjust, and final Settlement make of all the Demands against the Estates of Joseph Wanton, jun. and William Wanton, late of Newport, in the County of Newport, Merchants, Absentees, do hereby give Notice, that they will meet for that Purpose at the House of Mr. John Lawton, in the City of Newport, on the Second Monday in April next; the Creditors to said Estates are desired to leave their respective Demands in writing with Mr. Daniel Mason, in Newport, previous to said Time affixed; those Persons who neglect to attend upon said Committee, with their respective Vouchers will be forever after excluded from taking any Benefit from said Estates.

ESSECK HOPKINS,
DANIEL MASON,
NATHAN MILLER,
BENJAMIN ARNOLD,
R. J. HELME.

March 19, 1785.



TO be Let, by Auction, on the Premises, to the highest Bidder, on Friday the 25th inst., at 11 o'Clock, A. M. for One Year, the House and Garden, formerly belonging to Augustus Johnson, Esq; and now occupied by Mr. Benjamin Fry.

Newport, March 17, 1785.

THE Subscriber having let his Farm, which he improved the last Year, (late the Estate of Daniel Coggeshall, Esq;) at Boston-Neck, adjoining Mr. Francis Carpenter's Farm, proposes selling the Stock at public Auction, on Friday the 25th inst. at 2 o'Clock, P. M. on the Premises, consisting of working and other Cattle.

SILAS CASEY.

East-Greenwich, 15th March, 1785.

THESE are to notify all concerned, that if the Rents in Arrears due to the Proprietors on the Point Lots, numbered and specified as underneath, are not settled by the last Day of the Fourth Month (called April) next ensuing the Date Hereof, Suits will be commenced against them at the next Inferior Court of Common Pleas, to be holden for the County of Newport.

By Order of the Proprietors,

JOHN GOULD, Clerk.

Newport, the 31 Month 7th, 1785.

First Division.	Second Division.
No. 34 103	No. 95
44 119	100
45 120	101
47 121	102
49 127	103
50 141	104
90 141	106
Half 95 151	114
96 153	115
97 154	116
98 162	138
101	139

TO BE LET,

A large convenient Dwelling-House, with about 4 Acres of Land adjoining to said Dwelling-House, near the Hay-Scales.—For further Particulars inquire of

STEPHEN AYRAULT.

Newport, March 18, 1785.

Certificates for Soldiers.

THE Subscriber being possessed of Certificates on Interest (signed by John Peirce, Esq; Commissioner of Accounts for the United States) for the Wages due the Nine Months Levies, who served in the Rhode-Island Regiment, in the Campaign of 1782.—He therefore requests said Levies, or other Persons authorized to receive the same, to call on him at Providence, when he will deliver the above Certificates in Exchange for those issued at Saratoga, by the Pay-Master, and countersigned by the Commanding-Officer of said Regiment.

JEREMIAH OLNEY.

Providence, 10th March, 1785.

All Persons having any Demands on the Estate of RHOPEY RECORDS, late of Little-Compton, deceased, are desired to bring them in.—And those indebted to said Estate are requested to make immediate Payment, to

MARY RECORDS, Administratrix.

Little-Compton, March 4, 1785.

All Persons having any Demands on the Estate of RICHARD BRIGGS, late of Little-Compton, deceased, are desired to bring them in: And those indebted to said Estate are requested to make immediate Payment, to

ANN BRIGGS, Administratrix.

Little-Compton, March 4, 1785.

TO BE SOLD, BY ROBERT STODDARD.

At his Store, two Doors below Banister's Wharf, on the most reasonable Terms, the following Articles, viz.

M ADIRA, Port, Sherry, and Lisbon,	Wines	Chocolate,
Jamaica Spirits,		Coffee,
West-India Rum,		Rice,
New-England Ditto,		Oil,
Brandy,		Mustard,
Draught and Case Geneva,		Hair Powd. & Starch,
Hyson,		Soap and Candles,
Southw. and } Teas.		Coppers,
Bohea,		Alum,
Mace,		Snuff in Bottles and
Nutmegs,		Bladders,
Cloves,		Wrapping Paper,
Allspice,		Indigo,
Pepper and Ginger,		Pipes by the Grofs,
Loaf and brown Sugars,		Powder and Shot,
Figs, Currants, and Raisins,		A Variety of well assorted Queen's and
		Glate Ware.

A L S O,

A Quantity of superfine and common Flour, and good ship Cordell, which will be disposed of at the lowest Rate.

Newport, March 17, 1785.

TO BE SOLD, BY Walter Easton,

At his Shop, next Door South of the Brick-Market,

A GENERAL Assortment of English and India GOODS, suitable for the present and approaching Season, amongst which are a variety of Chintz and Calicoes, which he will sell on as reasonable Terms as can be purchased in the State. He has also for Sale a few Tons of English Hay, and a Quantity of Hard's Grass Seed.

N. B. Indian Corn, Cheese, or Orders on the Import-Office taken in Pay for any of the above Articles.

JOHN ALEXANDER SAPEL,

SURGEON and OPERATOR from Germany, INFORMS the Public in general and those that stand in need of his Service in particular, That he cures all sorts of Disorders, both external and internal, he performeth Operations and Amputations of the Cancer and Fistula on any Part of the Body; he is a Man likewise that delivers the suffering Persons with speed and good Success, and Satisfaction to his Patients; he cures all Sorts of venereal Disorders; inoculates Children for the Small-pox, &c. He has served seven Years in his Majesty the King of Prussia's Service, as Surgeon to the General Hospital, and was examined by his Majesty's Surgeon-General, Mr. Bulyer, at Berlin, also by Dr. Shippen, at Philadelphia. In the Year 1777, he was appointed Surgeon to the General Hospital, in the Continental Service, in which he continued 5 Years, and through the Blessing of God has performed the following Operations with good Success, viz.

William Finkbeard, Soldier, in the 8th Pennsylvania Regiment, was shot through both his Arms by charging a Cannon. On the third Day after he was wounded, he came off his left Arm in six Minutes, and on the 9th following his right Arm, in eight Minutes, and cured him in nine Weeks.—Second, Cat (Anna Elizabeth Teckerin) a Cancer in her left Shoulder, which weighed one Pound three Ounces.—Third, A Son of Samuel Nichols had a Frack growing under his Tongue, which appeared to be as large as a Hen's Egg, he performed two Operations on it, and it now appears to be perfectly healed.

N. B. He lodges at the House of Mr. Samuel Phillips, in Thames-Street.

Newport, March 18, 1785.

To be SOLD altogether, or in several Lots as may best suit the Purchasers,

FOURTEEN Acres of excellent LAND with Advantage of Sea Manure, in Coggeshall's Neck. For further Particulars apply to **BENJAMIN CHURCH.**

JACOB ISAACKS, BROKER.

HAS for Sale, on very reasonable Terms, a new Hull of a Vessel, of the following Dimensions, 53 Feet Keel, 20 and a Half by the Beam, 8 Feet Hole to her Walk, and if required and agreed for, the Purchaser may have her Deck lay'd on the black Streak of a Foot more, with a flush Deck, and as long a Quarter-Deck as can be required, and can be delivered in 3 Months or sooner, as all her Timber and Plank are in the Yard and well seasoned.

He has several other Vessels of different Sizes to dispose of, some near ready to be launched, and a Number of Houses in different Parts of this City, one in particular in the most public Part of it, having four large Rooms on a Floor, a good Shop, a Cellar, and a Well of Water.

A fine Schooner to Charter out, of 25 Tons, and expects to have several small Vessels to Charter out in a few Days. Any Persons having Vessels from 70 to 90 Tons, by applying to him may here at those who want to charter or purchase.

He has likewise to dispose of a Quantity of Dry Goods, and Treasurer's Notes, and buys and sells all other Securities and final Settlements.

Several Farms to be sold, some of them for the above Securities.

He has also for sale a Quantity of brown Sugars and New-England Rum.

The South-Ferry to be Let,

And entered upon the 25th of March inst.

ANY Person inclining to hire that well known and profitable Place called the South-Ferry, in South-Kingstown, consisting of the Ferry-House, Stores, Wharves, Ferry-Boats, &c. with the Farm, Farm-House, Barn, Stables, &c. may know the Terms by applying to Mr. AMOS GARDNER, near said Ferry; no Commendations are necessary with regard to the Situation and Profit that may be made there, as they are universally known.

South Kingstown, March 9, 1785.

To be SOLD or LET,



A FARM lying in Point Judith, adjoining the Sea, of about 180 Acres, with a Dwelling-House, Cheese House, Milk-House, &c. thereon.

Any Person inclining to Purchase or Hire, may know the Terms by applying to JAMES ROBINSON, in Newport.

Possession will be given the 25th of March next.

January 28, 1785.

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THAT very valuable FARM, the Northerly Part of Mount-Hope, in the Town of Bristol, State of Rhode-Island, containing about 430 Acres of excellent arable and Pasture Land, with a large Quantity of Ship Timber and other Trees, butting on the Sea, where Ships of Burthen may be built.—For further Particulars inquire of GEORGE BETHUNE, Esq; of Cambridge, State of Massachusetts, or of the Subscriber, in Boston.

MARTIN BRIMMER.

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HAS for Sale, at the Stores, on his Wharf, a constant Supply of new Philadelphia Superfine and common FLOUR, and Philadelphia Bar-Iron sorted—Tea by the Chest, or smaller Quantity—Lisbon Wines, by the Quarter Cask—Cordage of all Sizes—Coarse and fine Salt—West-India and New-England Rum, Melasses, Coffee and Ginger, by the Hoghead, Tierce, or Barrel.



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The valuable ANNQUACKET FARM:



TO be sold, and entered upon the 25th Day of March next, a Farm, under good Improvement, situate in Tiverton, near Howland's Ferry, State of Rhode-Island, containing 447 Acres, with a Dwelling-House and Barn

thereon, being three Quarter Parts of that excellent Farm late the Property of Andrew Oliver, Esq; and commonly called the Annquacket Farm.—It has ever been esteemed one of the most valuable Tracts of Land, within the State, as well for its native Richness of Soil, the great Advantage it has of Manure, to be found in Abundance drifted upon the Shore, as for its pleasant and agreeable Situation, being bounded on the Sea in such a Manner, as effectually to serve for an outside Fence, for more than 200 Acres of the improved Land.—It contains 119 Acres of excellent Timber (the Remainder being under Improvement) suitable for any Use, particularly Ship-Building, and lies within one Mile of a very commodious Cove on said Premises for establishing a Ship-Yard, where Vessels of 300 Tons may be built, and floated at high Water.—The above Premises will be sold together, or in two or three Divisions, as may best suit the Purchaser or Purchasers.—The Conditions of Sale will be rendered extremely easy, as three Quarters of the Purchase-Money will be received in Goods and public Securities; and a Length of Time on good Security, will be given for Part of the Pay.—The above Premises (if not sold) will be leased out for the Term of one Year, commencing the 25th of March next.—For more particular Terms of Sale or Lease, apply to THOMAS HUGHES, of Freetown, WILLIAM HUMPHRY, of Rehoboth, WILLIAM TEW, of the City of Newport, COGGESHALL OLNEY, of Cumberland, JEREMIAH OLNEY, of Providence, or Messieurs PETER and BENJAMIN MUMFORD, Post Riders.

Providence, January 22, 1785.

A General Assortment of Woollens, Shags for Waistcoats, Velvets, Corduroys, Looking-Glasses, Hole's Shoes and toed Clogs, Window-Glats, Nails and Shot; with a great Variety of other Goods, sold on the lowest Terms, at

WALTER CHANNING'S Store,
The Corner of the New-lane,
Thames-street.

CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Has just imported, and has now to sell at his Store,

BOHEA-TEA, by the Chest; Swedish Iron assorted; Russia and Ravens Duck; Cordage and a small Assortment of English Goods.

TO BE SOLD, BY
THOMAS HOWLAND,
At his STORE,

JAMAICA Spirits by the Hoghead, Barrel, and Gallon,
West-India Rum, Ditto, per Ditto,
Brandy by the Barrel or Gallon,
Bohea Tea by the Hundred or Dozen,
Coffee by the Hundred,
Allspice by the Bag or Dozen,
Sugars by the Barrel.

Indian Corn, and Orders on the Import Office taken in pay for any of the above Articles.

WH the Subscribers being appointed Commissioners by the Hon. Judge of Probate for the City of Newport, to examine the Claims on the Estate of JOHN SANFORD, late of Newport aforesaid, Glazier, deceased, represented insolvent. Do hereby give Notice thereof to the Creditors to said Estate, to bring in their Claims immediately to either of us, at our respective Dwellings, BENJAMIN ALMY, HENRY PECKHAM.

A LOTTERY

GRANTED by the Honorable General Assembly of the State of Rhode-Island, &c. at their Session in February, 1785, for raising 1250 Dollars, to be appropriated towards repairing the Meeting and Parsonage Houses of the Second Congregational Society, in the City of Newport, late under the pastoral Care of the Rev. Ezra Stiles, D. D. which were in a great Measure destroyed in the late War.

The Managers of this Lottery desirous of lessening the Number of Classes, and augmenting the Value of the highest Prize and the Number of the other Prizes, propose to sell as many Tickets in the First Class, as can be disposed of before the Sixteenth Day of May next, when the Sale shall be closed, and the Number sold ascertained and drawn.—The Value of the highest Prize and the Number of the other Prizes, shall bear a Proportion to the Number of Tickets sold, agreeable to the following Scheme:

If 1200 Tickets are sold there shall be			If 2400 Tickets are sold there shall be		
1	Prize of 100	Dol. 100	1	Prize of 200	Dol. 200
2	50	50	2	50	100
3	25	50	3	25	100
10	10	100	20	10	200
10	5	50	20	5	100
300	2	600	600	2	1200
For Repairs 950			For Repairs 1900		
1200			2400		

And in the same Proportion, if a greater Number should be sold.

Tickets at One Dollar each:—Not Two and Three-Quarters Blank to a Prize.

Prizes of Two Dollars to be paid in Tickets in the next succeeding Class:—And to prevent Delays in drawing the next Class, by not exchanging the Two Dollar Prizes in Season, Tickets shall be assigned to them by the Managers before the drawing of the same, in the following Manner, the lowest Number of the Two Dollar Prizes shall be assigned to Tickets No. 1 and 2 in the next succeeding Class, the next lowest to No. 3 and 4, and so on to the highest Number of the Two Dollar Prizes.

A List of the Prizes will be published in the Newport Mercury, as soon as the drawing is completed.—Those which are not demanded Six Months after Publication shall be deemed generously given for the Purposes aforesaid.

The Managers appointed are Messieurs John Peman, Simon Newton, Christopher Emery, Robert Stevens, Thomas Rumcill, William Channing, Jacob Richardson, Samuel Vernon, tertius, John Topham, Edward Simmons, Samuel J. Thurston, and William Hammond.

TO BE SOLD or LET,
And entered on the 25th of March next,

A Pleasant situated FARM, in Portsmouth, on Rhode-Island, containing about 36 Acres, with two good Dwelling-Houses, Barn and Crib thereon. For further Particulars inquire of JACOB ROD. RIVERA, or MOSES SEIXAS.

Newport, Feb. 25, 1785.

TO BE SOLD, BY
ETHAN CLARKE,

At his Store on his Wharf, WEST-INDIA and New-England Rum; Sugar and Molasses by the Hoghead or Barrel; Rice by the Cask or Hundred; Indigo by the Hundred or Dozen; German and English Steel; Bar-Iron; Russia Duck, &c. &c.—All cheaper for Cash than can really be afforded.

T A R,

To be SOLD, at Store No. 2, on STEVENS & STEVENSON'S Wharf.

Thomas Howland

HAS received by the Washington, Capt. Smith, a general Assortment of DRY GOODS, suitable for the present and approaching Season, which he will sell on such low Terms as must give Satisfaction; and will assure the Public, that those who are not acquainted with the Price of Goods, may rely on being served at his Shop, on as good Terms as the very best Judges.

He returns his best Thanks to those who have favoured him with their Custom, and begs Leave to assure them, that his utmost Endeavours will be to merit a Continuance of their Favours.

Christopher Champlin

Has to sell, at his Store, for CASH, WINDOW GLASS, by the Box, 8 by 6—9 by 7—and 10 by 8. Newport, October 29, 1784.

TO BE SOLD, BY
William Minturn,

At his Store, on the Wharf opposite Col. John Malbone's Dwelling-House, SPERMACEI Candles and strain Oil; Bar-Iron; Russia and Ravens Duck; Bohea Tea, by the Chest or smaller Quantity; Lisbon Wine, by the Quarter Cask; Molasses and Rum, by the Hoghead; and common and superfine Flour.

A BARGAIN.

To be Sold, by Order, being a Confirmation, at

Joseph and William Russell's
STORE,

140 CHEST S,

CONTAINING about 3000 excellent new BRITISH MUSKETS, with Bayonets, well sorted, and suitable for every Purpose—in as good Order as they came first out of the Maker's Hands; and will be sold together, or in such Parcels as may best suit the Purchasers, for only Three Dollars each.

Any Person at Newport, inclining to view the Quality of said Muskets, may see some of them at Mr. Jacob Rod. Rivera's Store, at the Point.

N. B. Each Chest contains from 20 to 28 Muskets.—About 600 of the above are near Fowling Pieces.

Also, a Quantity of Choice Connecticut PORK and BEEF.

Providence, Feb. 18, 1785.

STOP THIEF.

STOLEN out of the Subscriber's Shop, on Tuesday Morning last, Two Pieces Chintz, buff ground, with lively running flowers, containing about Five and a Half Yards each—Also, One Piece Ditto, blue ground, with lively Flowers, containing about Eight Yards. Whoever will detect the Robber (of whom I have a strong Suspicion) shall receive a Reward of FIVE DOLLARS, on his Conviction.

JOSEPH LOPEZ.

Newport, March 4, 1785.

The valuable ANNOQUACKET FARM:



TO be sold, and entered upon the 25th Day of March next, a Farm, under good Improvement, situate in Tiverton, near Howland's Ferry, State of Rhode-Island, containing 447 Acres, with a Dwelling-House and Barn thereon, being three Quarter Parts of that excellent Farm late the Property of Andrew Oliver, Esq; and commonly called the Anniquacket Farm.—It has ever been esteemed one of the most valuable Tracts of Land, within the State, as well for its native Richness of Soil, the great Advantage it has of Manure, to be found in Abundance drifted upon the Shore, as for its pleasant and agreeable Situation, being bounded on the Sea in such a Manner, as effectually to serve for an outside Fence, for more than 200 Acres of the improved Land.—It contains 179 Acres of excellent Timber (the Remainder being under Improvement) suitable for any Use, particularly Ship-Building, and lies within one Mile of a very commodious Cove on said Premises for establishing a Ship-Yard, where Vessels of 300 Tons may be built, and floated at high Water.—The above Premises will be sold together, or in two or three Divisions, as may best suit the Purchaser or Purchasers.—The Conditions of Sale will be rendered extremely easy, as three Quarters of the Purchase-Money will be received in Goods and public Securities; and a Length of Time on good Security, will be given for Part of the Pay.—The above Premises (if not sold) will be leased out for the Term of one Year, commencing the 25th of March next.—For more particular Terms of Sale or Lease, apply to THOMAS HUGHES, of Freetown, WILLIAM HUMPHRY, of Rehoboth, WILLIAM TEW, of the City of Newport, COGGESHALL OLNEY, of Cumberland, JEREMIAH OLNEY, of Providence, or Messieurs PETER and BENJAMIN MUMFORD, Post Riders.
Providence, January 22, 1785.

A General Assortment of Woollens, Shags for Waistcoats, Velvets, Corduroys, Looking-Glasses, Hofs Shoes and toed Clogs, Window-Glass, Nails and Shot; with a great Variety of other Goods, sold on the lowest Terms, at

WALTER CHANNING's Store,
The Corner of the New-lane,
Thames-street.

CHRISTOPHER CHAMPLIN

Hath just imported, and has now to sell at his Store,

BOHEA-TEA, by the Chest; Swedish Iron afforded; Russia and Ravens Duck: Cordage and a small Assortment of English Goods.

TO BE SOLD, BY
THOMAS HOWLAND,
At his STORE,

JAMAICA Spirits by the Hoghead, Barrel, and Gallon,
West-India Rum, Ditto, per Ditto,
Brandy by the Barrel or Gallon,
Bohea Tea by the Hundred or Dozen,
Coffee by the Hundred,
Allspice by the Bag or Dozen,
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300	- 2	600	600	- 2	1200
	950			1900	
	For Repairs 250			For Repairs 500	
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